

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/876,082

Examiner

Jerome Grant II

Applicant(s)

ITO, YUKI

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2-28-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 6-8-2001
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Aaron Chatterjee on July 7, 2005.

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) A composite apparatus, comprising:
plurality of operationally associated processing means each having an independent timer for judging whether or not the timer is placed in a sleep state; and
control means for, when one processing means is placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not another processing means is ready, and when it is checked that such another processing means is ready, regardless of a state of timers disposed in all processing means that are ready, controlling the timers of all the processing means that are ready to be placed in a sleep state in synchronism with a timer of the one operationally associated processing means placed in a sleep state.

5. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) A composite apparatus, comprising:

- a power circuit configured to supply power to each section;
- a scanner section configured to read a manuscript, thereby acquiring manuscript image data;
- a printer engine configured to carry out print processing;
- a facsimile device;
- a printer controller having its own control section, wherein a respective processing section of each of the scanner section, the print engine, the facsimile device, and the printer controller includes an independent timer; and

a system controller for, when one operationally associated processing section of one of the scanner section, printer engine, facsimile device, and printer controller is placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not another processing section is ready, and, in the case that it is checked that another processing section is ready, regardless of the state of the timers disposed in each of the processing sections that are ready, synchronizing all timers of the processing sections that are ready with a timer of the one operationally associated processing section placed in a sleep state, thereby controlling the power circuit to be driven and controlling the processing sections to be placed in a sleep state.

7. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) A method of controlling a composite apparatus having a plurality of processing means each having a timer, comprising the steps of:

when one of a plurality of operationally associated processing means is placed in a sleep state, checking whether or not another processing means is ready;

when it is checked that such another processing means is ready, synchronizing all the timers of all processing means that are ready with a timer of the one operationally associated processing means placed in a sleep state, regardless of the state of the timers of the processing means that are ready; and

placing the one processing means and the processing means that are ready in a sleep state.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 571-272-7463. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams, can be reached on 571-272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1-8 are allowed based upon the persuasiveness of the arguments presented at page 7, fourth paragraph of the remarks submitted Feb 28, 2005.

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